



Notes & Quotes



December 2007

Page 1

Officers

John Wold—President
John McDonnell—Vice President

MSGA Board of Directors

Patrick Lake
John McDonnell
John Wold
Jim Kulish
John Grass
Bear Whitmer
John Sherwood (ex-officio)

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Ron Larson—Manager
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Heather Rimel—Program Coordinator
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MSGA Website

www.ag.montana.edu/msga

Our new website is finally up and running. You now have easy access to directories, seed standards, contact information for MSGA staff and Board Members, other seed links and more. If there is something else you would like to see please let us know and we will try our best to include it. We are open to your thoughts and suggestions.

Seasons Greetings From MSGA



The Montana Seed Growers Association staff would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our growers, contractors, conditioning plants, handling facilities, county agents and associates for their participation and cooperation this past year; and extend warmest wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Heather Rimel, Tamara Vook, Bill Grey (Foundation Seed), Ron Larson

Final Votes Are In...

The ballots are in! The final votes have been tallied for MSGA Districts 4 & 6 elections. Congratulations to Jim Kulish from Stanford who has been elected to

District 4, and Bear Whitmer who has been elected to District 6! Both directors have been elected to 3 year terms. MSGA would also like say "thank

you" to the producers in these areas who took the time to participate in the election by casting their vote.

Happy Holidays.... Thinking of a New Year's Resolution?

By Bill Grey

It would be a good time to make a New Year's Resolution and be early with your requests for foundation seed from MSU Foundation SeedStocks. I am encouraging you to submit your requests no later than **February 15, 2008** as we are expecting a seed shortage this spring. We will have Vida PVP TitleV, Choteau PVP TitleV, Hays, Haxby, Haybet, Otana, and Monico. Also available will be our feed barley, 'Eslick'. 'Craft' PVP TitleV pending, was ap-

proved for malt by AMBA and has a unique semi-smooth awn that may be appealing for use as feed barley. New for this spring will be two camelina varieties, 'Blaine Creek' and 'Suneson'.



We are processing seed as the weather permits and will have our final quantity at the end of February. MSU pol-

icy is to allocate seed to members who are in good standing with MSGA and are current on all fees to MSGA and MSU.

Seed Price list and application for 2008 will be mailed in January.

Search the web for "Montana Foundation Seed"

<<http://plantsciences.montana.edu/FoundationSeed/>>

Continued on page 3.....

A Note From the Manager (Ron Larson)

On December 13, Bill Grey and I traveled to Sidney, Montana for our Experiment Station District 6 grower/ membership meeting, held at the USDA Building, north of Sidney. This was our first attempt at such a gathering of our MSGA members in a while. We also had Steve Sebesta of North Dakota State Seed Department as a guest. (Thanks to Steve for traveling all the way from Fargo). The items discussed were:

1. Comparison of North Dakota and Montana certification programs
2. Discussion of crop history requirement for small grains and changes as voted on by MSGA board in 2007
3. PVP discussion - "brown bagging" problem
4. Research Fee collection process for Montana and North Dakota varieties
5. Combine clean-out process

The meeting was set up by Richland County Extension Agent Ben Larson, who also shared some information on ag. chemical use as a sidelight. About 17 growers were present plus a cleaning plant operation and a contractor. There was strong interest in the topics discussed, and solid direction given on some of these topics. The results of this meeting will be helpful to Bear Whitmer, our District 6 board member for input at the February board meeting. It seems to me that this is representative government as it should work, providing opportunity for grower interaction on issues of concern to MSGA members. My hope is that we might be able to have meetings like this in every district, perhaps attempting to meet in two districts per year, as we continue to address issues and challenges that come before the board. I also want to say "thank you" to those who were able to attend this meeting, as well as Board member Bear Whitmer and Ben Larson.

MSU Research Fee Update:

By Bill Grey

Invoices for the MSU research fees will be mailed to those of you who have sold registered and/or certified seed of Choteau, Vida, Genou and Yellowstone. The invoice will indicate the MSGA certification number, variety and quantity produced. Please indicate the quantity remaining as inventory, the amount replanted and that sold as grain. Following your suggestions, we are requesting payments in November/December of the year since it would follow the spring/fall seasons of sales and there is slack time during the holidays. This invoice will include Research Fees due on two years of sales: spring sales of Choteau 2006 and 2007, fall sales of Genou 2006 and 2007, and fall sales of Yellowstone 2006 and 2007. We think that you will appreciate the information on the invoice that confirms your previous payments as well as the MSGA certification number and production reported for fees pending. Let us know by phone or email or letter how we can improve the invoice or help your staff with record keeping on sales.

Budget Report:

Research fee income		\$119,727.00	409,805 bushels
Adm. Expenses	Printing	-\$5,982.00	
	Postage	-\$271.00	
Research Distribution	L. Talbert	-\$32,500.00	
	P. Bruckner	-\$10,000.00	
Total	Balance	\$70,974.00	



Travel Talk

Well, this holiday season has been incredibly busy for the MSGA and State Seed Lab staff. On December 11th six of us (John Sherwood-MSU Plant Sciences Dept. Head, Bill Grey, Ron Larson, Heather Rimel, Bridget Westfall and Carli Lofing-Seed Lab) traveled to Helena for the Seed Trade Winter Meeting. Bill

Grey updated Seed Trade on issues of the Foundation Seed program. He discussed the Seed Management System, MAES Plant Variety Production Varieties, and gave an example of the invoices for research fees that will be arriving in the mail. John Sherwood informed Seed Trade about the possible reorganization

of the MSU seed departments and answered questions dealing with MSU policies. Last, but not least, Ron gave an update on the seed certification program and seed lab. Thank you to all of you that introduced yourselves to us newcomers, as we enjoyed meeting you and putting a face with a name!

MSGA Board of Directors Meeting

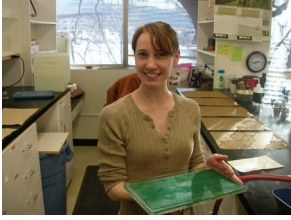
On February 25 - 26 the Montana Seed Growers Association is having their annual Board of Directors Meeting in Bozeman. If you have subjects or issues that you would like to be included in the



agenda, please contact the board member from your district or the MSGA office.

All thoughts and comments are welcome. Contact information for your district representative can also be found on our website at www.ag.montana.edu/msga.

Roots and Shoots from the Seed Lab



Christina King, a student employee for the Seed Lab recently graduated from MSU with a Bachelor's degree in Horticulture. She has worked for the seed lab for 1 ½ years and we greatly appreciate her efforts.

Christina will continue to work for the lab until a new adventure comes along. Congratulations and good luck!

Quick reminders:

- MSU Seed Lab's schedule for Barley Stripe Mosaic Virus (BSMV) testing is February 1 through March 31. If you need a BSMV test before these dates, we encourage you to send your request (1/2 # sample) to North Dakota State Seed Lab. Please remember that prices may differ and please request a copy of the test results be sent to MSGA office for grading.
- Our program, PUREHARVEST, now allows growers to access all their sample information sent to the MSU Seed Lab. This function allows you to view all sample information and history. The program will automatically send you an email when a test is completed so you can view results as early as possible. If you are interested in setting up a user ID and password to access PUREHARVEST please call Carli at 406-994-2141.

The lab will be closed on Dec 24, 25, 31, and Jan 1.

Thank you all for your support during the BLM rush! Happy Holidays!

By Carli Lofing
MSU Seed Lab

Dates of Interest

December 24-26: Closed for Christmas
January 1st: Closed for New Years
January 17-19: MAGIE Show in Great Falls
January 21st: Closed for Martin Luther King Day
January 22-24: MAES Annual Planning Conference
February 14-16: MATE Show in Billings
February 25-26: MSGA Board Meeting in Bozeman
March 6-8: Harlem Seed Show, Harlem, MT
June 17-19: Seed Trade Summer Meeting, Polson (tentative)



Carli, Heather, and Bridget at Seed Trade

Production Fees

Just a friendly reminder that the first round of invoices for production fees has been sent. Production fees for seed harvested from all crops are due within 30 days after harvest. Fees for the 2007 cropping year must be received by April 15, 2008. Fees are due on all crops that passed the field inspection even if they do not pass final lab analysis or are not carried through certification beyond field inspection. Individual growers may not receive an invoice for crops grown under contract. If the contractor does not pay grower's production fees please forward the invoice on to your growers. Many thanks.